

# News and stories

## Medal of Honor Recipient to Unveil Gold Star Monument at National D-Day Memorial

May 19, 2017

[Times Virginian](#)

Hershel “Woody” Williams, one of only five living Medal of Honor recipients from WWII and the last from the Battle of Iwo Jima, will deliver the Memorial Day keynote address on Monday, May 29 at 11 a.m. at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford.

Williams will help unveil Virginia’s first Gold Star Families Memorial Monument. He personally selected the site as home to the monument, which will stand as a reminder of the sacrifice of the families left behind when a military son or daughter is lost in service to our nation. Gold Star families will be in attendance.

The Memorial will also dedicate the newest installment of veteran bricks, each bearing the name of a person who served. Brass 5 will perform special music.

Attendees are asked to bring fresh cut flowers to the ceremony. The flowers will be collected and placed on veterans’ graves at Oakwood/Longwood/Greenwood Cemetery on Longwood Avenue in Bedford at 2 p.m. The Bedford International Alliance will honor the Bedford Boys, lost on D-Day, who rest there.

The Memorial is offering free admission until noon. Guests are

asked to bring their own chairs to the ceremony, though seats will be available for veterans. Veterans can RSVP by calling the Memorial office at (540) 586-DDAY. No pets, except service animals.

Media interested in morning show live shots on-site or interviews with Williams at the event are asked to contact Angela Lynch, Associate Director of Marketing, at .